



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Knotts, et al. Art Unit 2834
Serial No.: 09/896,367 Examiner Guillermo Perez
Filed: June 28, 2001
Title: Apparatus for Reducing Spindle Motor Magnetic Drag

#9/A
D. EVANS
1.14.03

Box Non Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Amendment

In response to the action mailed September 11, 2002, please
amend the application as follows:

In the specification:

Please amend paragraph 0005, 0008 and 0021 to read as follows:

AI

[0005] Currently, disk drive spindle motors are being
operated at increasingly higher speeds in order to speed up
access times and increase storage capacities. In current
spindle motor design, the problem arises from the fact that
the magnet, as described above, has a plurality of poles. The
inventors have recognized that when a magnet with a plurality
of poles is moving at high speed near a piece of metal, then
the stray flux emitted by the magnet may interact with that
metal and create a drag on the rotating magnet. The faster
the speed of the rotation of the magnet past the metal, (such
as is found in the flange or base of the housing of a disc
drive), the more drag is created. This can create a serious
power loss in the disc drive system. Thus, the problem